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THE LONG-DELAYED NEW SMARTPHONE FROM BLACKBERRY HITS THE CANADIAN MARKET. WHAT WAS THE RECEPTION? PAGE 6

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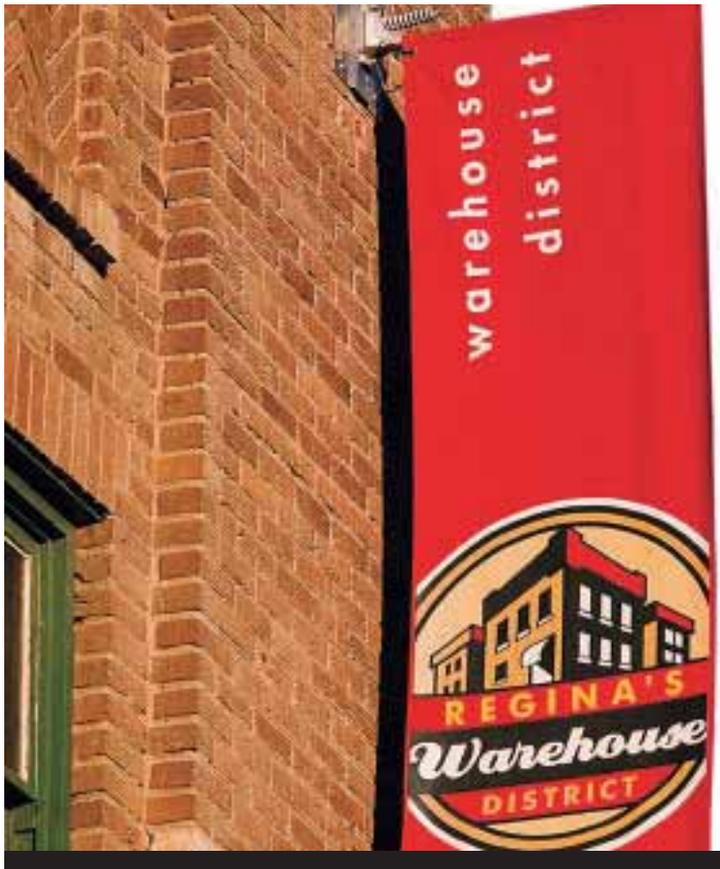

TRADITION TO TRANSITION

Regina's Warehouse District has been undergoing a transformation as the city grows and needs more office, commercial and residential space. More on this story, page 3. CONTRIBUTED/REGINA WAREHOUSE DISTRICT

Push polled? Tories behind it

Electoral boundary changes. Federal party acknowledges role in robocalls that prompted complaints to CRTC

The federal Conservative party is acknowledging it commissioned a so-called "push poll" in the Prairies warning would-be voters that changes to their electoral boundaries would undermine "Saskatchewan values."

An arms-length, independent commission is proposing to redistribute some of the province's 14 federal ridings in order to better reflect increasingly urban populations in Regina and Saskatoon.

But the changes have met with stiff resistance from Conservatives, who hold 13 of Saskatchewan's 14 seats and fear a more concentrated urban vote in some ridings might favour their political rivals.

Since the electoral map changes have become public, residents have complained of getting automated phone calls that suggest the redistribution would pit rural people against urban dwellers — then seek a response.

NDP reaction

The whole purpose of independent electoral commissions is to avoid perceptions of political parties "gerrymandering" the electoral map for their partisan benefit, said Nathan Cullen, the NDP House leader.

- Cullen said the Conservative calls in Saskatchewan were "disappointing but no surprise."

The robocalls identified no political party, saying they came from a company called Chase Research. That prompted complaints to the broadcast regulator, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission.

After initially denying any involvement, a Conservative party spokesman in Ottawa corrected the record Tuesday.

"There was an internal miscommunication on the matter, and the calls should have been identified as coming from the Conservative party," Fred DeLorey said in a statement.

DeLorey denied the party was polling on the issue because "we already know where people stand." Three-quarters of those who participated in the boundary commission hearings were opposed to the changes, he said.

"But we are doing a host of things to communicate with voters and get their feedback," DeLorey said in the statement.

Electoral boundaries are automatically examined every 10 years as populations shift. Changes are proposed by independent panels after public consultation.

The Saskatchewan commission includes a judge, a professor emeritus and a representative of a rural municipalities association. The rural community group representative opposes the proposed changes.

University of Saskatchewan political science professor Dave McGrane told The Canadian Press that several people emailed him about the robocalls, prompting him to investigate Chase Research.

McGrane said he could not find a website for the company; calling the number from which the original calls were made went to an automated answering machine.

The same firm was linked to another push poll in Alberta last February.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Brad Wall

Quebec more of a 'distraction' than help on health group, premier says

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall says it's not surprising that Quebec has pulled out of a health-care working group set up by all the premiers.

Wall, who co-chairs the group, says in an email to The Canadian Press that Quebec has been "more of a distraction at this table than a constructive partner."

The working group was established in January 2012. The group is looking at better ways to meet new challenges in health care.

Wall says it has been making significant progress without a lot of input from Quebec and that won't change.

Last month, Wall announced the provinces would bulk buy six widely used generic drugs to save money, but Quebec did not join in.

Quebec says it intends to concentrate on its own priorities.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Commodities

New $90-million hub planned

A major grain storage and handling company is planning a $90 million hub in southeastern Saskatchewan to ship grain and oil.

Ceres Global Ag Corp. has bought about 607 hectares of land in Northgate, which is east of Estevan, along the border with North Dakota and plans to build the commodity logistics hub.

It says the connection will give shippers access to customers in 28 states, Pacific and Gulf ports, and Mexico along BNSF's nearly 51,500 kilometre network. Construction is planned to start in the spring, with initial grain and oil shipments expected later in 2013.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Shining a spotlight on Regina's Warehouse District

Bricks and Mortar.
Book looks at neighbourhood's history, inhabitants

JEFF MACKEY
jeff.mackey@metronews.ca

An archival photo from Regina's Warehouse District. Many more archival warehouse photos will be featured in the book Regina's Warehouse District: Bricks and Mortar, Pride and Passion. CONTRIBUTED/REGINA WAREHOUSE DISTRICT

One of Regina's most distinctive and enterprising neighbourhoods is about to be immortalized in a new book.

Regina's Warehouse District: Bricks and Mortar, Pride and Passion studies the district and its inhabitants mostly in the period between 1900 and 1930. There will be a book launch at Focus 91 Photography on Wednesday at 10 a.m.; attending the event will be people in period dress.

The warehouse district spans 80 blocks from Dewdney Avenue in the south to 4th Street in the north. It has been a staple of the Regina landscape for more than a century and has housed everything from farming equipment to car manufacturing and major retailers.

Today it is undergoing yet another transformation.

"We are such a blend, we might have a manufacturing plant next door to a condominium, next door to a retail location and everyone just lives and works together," said Audrey Price, executive director with the Regina Warehouse Improvement District, who has helped put together this book with Biographies Regina.

The book features stories of some of the neighbourhood's biggest characters and builders along with loads of archival photos form the period.

"It really ties an individual and a business to a historical property," said Price. "We have a lot of heritage warehouses in the Warehouse District and they don't mean anything to people until they know the stories about the people and businesses behind them."

Today the warehouse district is undergoing major change and with will likely be transformed further through the Regina Revitalization Initiative. "We are really on the cusp of some exciting things," said Price. "I could see it becoming a thriving hub for business and community, like what you see at the Exchange in Winnipeg or Gastown in Vancouver."

Studying the pages of Saskatchewan's past

Township registers from across the province outlining the dividing of Dominion lands are just one piece of history the Saskatchewan Archives holds. The archives are being recognized this week during the seventh annual Saskatchewan Archives Week. ALYSSA MCDONALD/METRO

Archives are more than just paper, they are living memory.

Buried deep in the back room of the Saskatchewan archives is Louis Riel's personal diary and a soundtrack of 1966 Saskatchewan Roughriders players and cheerleaders speaking about the first ever Grey Cup win, among others. All this history is being celebrated as part of the seventh annual Saskatchewan Archives Week.

Of course there are still paper records, hundreds of thousands of them in the form of newspapers, homestead records and government documents, but the archives also store photographs, film, nightly newscasts and Walter Scott's death mask — which is currently on display at the legislature.

They get people coming to research their own family history, past events and for information on their property including architecture, fire insurance plans and environment assessments.

"People use the archives for almost as many reasons as there are people," said Paula Rein, archivist at the Saskatchewan Archives Board located at 3303 Hillsdale St.

Although the archives might seem stuck in the past, the board has been updating the system as new technology emerges, from microfilm to floppy discs to DVDs.

Roughly 8,000 photos have been uploaded online over the past year, but that is out of about 1.5 million picture options. The photos range from promotional shots to government photos, but all represent a part of Saskatchewan history. ALYSSA MCDONALD/METRO

Upcoming event

As part of Saskatchewan Archives Week, the Regina Area Archives Week Working Group is holding an event looking at the rise and fall of prohibition from 7 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday night at Bushwakker Brewpub.

Canadian believed to be behind Bulgarian bus bombing: Baird

Dual citizen. Suspect in July attack lived in Lebanon, but entered with Canadian passport

A bus is moved from the airport in Burgas, Bulgaria, after an attack on vacationing Israelis last July. IMPACT PRESS GROUP FILE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

A Canadian "dual national" living in Lebanon is believed to be involved in the deadly bus bombing in Bulgaria last July, Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird confirmed Tuesday.

But key questions remained unanswered as Canada coped with the second allegation by a foreign government in recent weeks that Canadians took part in terrorist attacks abroad.

"This is not a resident of Canada. It's a dual national who I am told resides in Lebanon," Baird told a news conference on Parliament Hill.

"I couldn't even tell you the last time this person was in Canada," he said, adding that the suspect is still at large.

The figure entered Bulgaria with a Canadian passport and is believed to be linked to Hezbollah, the Shiite militant group and political party.

The attack killed five Israelis and their Bulgarian driver.

Tuesday's disclosure comes as Ottawa has yet to corroborate a claim by Algeria that at least one Canadian took part in a deadly attack on a Saharan gas plant last month.

"We've had a more robust engagement with Bulgaria, and they provided more information," said Baird. "The situation in Algeria is just completely different. We don't even have a name."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

They got their answer

British lawmakers on Tuesday voted overwhelmingly in favour of a bill to legalize same-sex marriage championed by Prime Minister David Cameron, despite strong opposition from within his Conservative Party. The bill must still pass a vote in the House of Lords. DAN KITWOOD/GETTY IMAGES

Terrorism

U.S. freer than thought to kill citizens abroad

An unclassified memo reveals that the Obama administration has had more lenient rules than publicly known for when drones can be launched to kill U.S. citizens working abroad with terrorists.

The government does not need evidence that a specific attack is imminent, only that the suspect is involved in plotting.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

India

Testimony begins in gang-rape trial

A special court has begun hearing testimony in the trial of five men charged with the fatal gang rape of a young woman on a moving bus in New Delhi.

Indian media reported that one of the first to testify Tuesday was the victim's male friend, who was attacked along with her on the bus.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Harvard University

Study finds racial bias in Google ads

A Harvard University study has found that there is "significant discrimination" in the way ads are placed in Google searches depending on whether a name is seen as white or black.

In fact, a black-identifying name was 25 per cent more likely to get a link advertising a search of their criminal record, according to author Prof. Latanya Sweeney.

One answer to the discrepancy may lie in Google's algorithms, which learn over time which ad text gets the most clicks.

"It is up to individual advertisers to decide which keywords they want to trigger their ads," a spokesperson added in an email.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

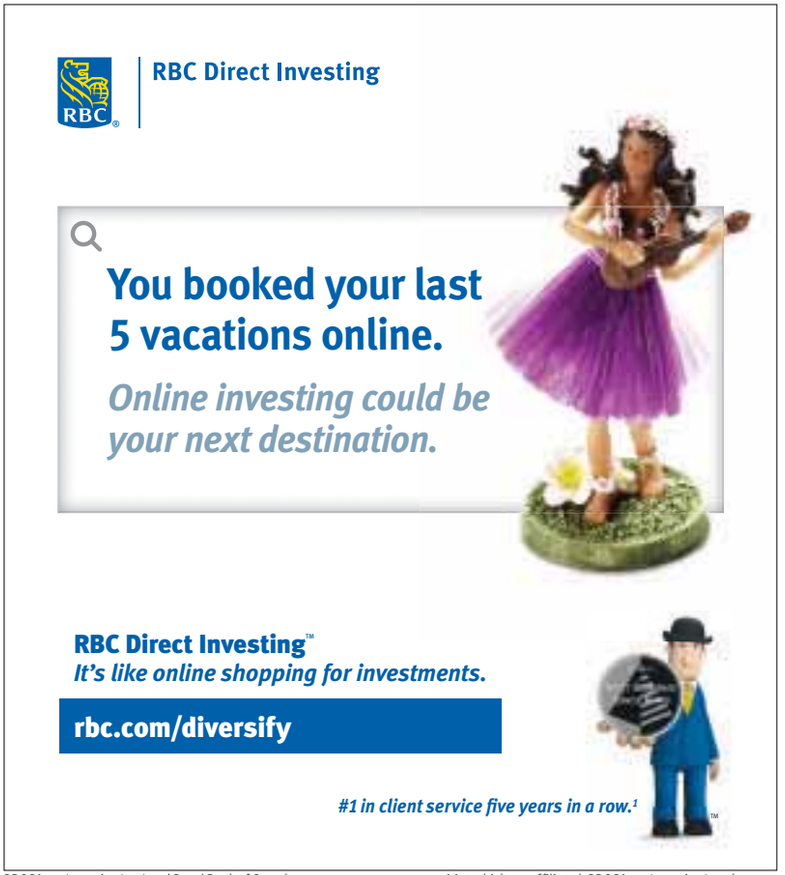
Facebook

No forgiveness for unfriending: Study

Around 40 per cent of people would avoid seeing someone in real life that had unfriended them on Facebook, according to a new academic study.

The report by author Christopher Sibona, a PhD student at the University of Colorado Denver Business School, says a higher ratio of women said they would avoid contact than men.

METRO WORLD NEWS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Mexico. Six tourists raped for hours by armed gang in glitzy Acapulco resort

Six Spanish tourists were raped by a gang of armed, masked men in the Mexican resort of Acapulco, the latest chapter of violence that has tarnished the once-glamorous Pacific coast resort.

The vicious, hours-long attack occurred before dawn Monday at a house that six Spanish men, six Spanish women and a Mexican woman had rented on a quiet, idyllic stretch of beach.

The attackers gained access to the house because two of the Spaniards were in the yard and apparently forced to open the door, said Acapulco Mayor Luis Walton at a press conference late Monday.

The five attackers burst into the house and held the group at gunpoint, he said. They tied up the six men with phone cords and bathing suit straps and then raped the six Spanish women. The Mexican woman was not raped.

The once-illustrious resort has already been battered by years of drug-gang killings and extortions, but except for very few incidents, the violence has not touched tourists.

Walton said he believed, but wasn't sure, that the assailants in Monday's attack didn't belong to a drug gang.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Police look for fingerprints at the scene. BERNANDINO HERNANDEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Decision day: Consumers finally get their paws on BlackBerry Z10

Retail debut. First day of sales doesn't match mania around iPhone launches, but numbers are 'quite robust'

There weren't any lineups around the block, but Canadians finally had a chance to get their hands on the new BlackBerry smartphone Tuesday as the device went on sale across the country.

The company behind the once-dominant phone joined with Rogers Communications to hold a media event in downtown Toronto, where a small number of customers who pre-ordered the BlackBerry Z10 activated their devices in front of the cameras.

About 24 people showed up at the event, Rogers spokeswoman Michelle Kelly said.

But the fanfare around first day of sales paled in comparison to Apple's iPhone launches, when sometimes hundreds of people wait outside stores to be among the first to own the latest model.

"Twelve years with the same company and I haven't switched," said Joseph Santos, a professed BlackBerry loyalist, who works as an IT manager in Toronto. "Being the head of an IT department, there was a lot of pressure to go to an Android phone. I kind of fought them off. This is my last stand here."

The BlackBerry launch comes after several delays left longtime fans either sticking with their older phones or switching to a competitor's phone.

The new BlackBerry is expected to sell for around $150 on a three-year contract. Koodo is selling it without a contract for $550.

Albert Lee, a spokesman for Bell, could not provide any preliminary sales statistics, but did say the number of pre-orders the company has seen for the Z10 "were higher than any other BB (BlackBerry) before."

"We're seeing intense interest today — sales are quite robust," Lee said in an email.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Peter Rosenthal, right, talks with sales representative Dan Marsan about his new BlackBerry Z10 at a Rogers store in Montreal on Tuesday during the Canadian launch of the device. GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Biggest customer base

U.S. debut set for next month

BlackBerry CEO Thorsten Heins, who was on hand for Tuesday's event at Rogers headquarters, said while he's disappointed the BlackBerry is not yet available in the U.S., its debut stateside next month will likely be helped by the earlier Canadian launch.

"Canada will be raving about the BlackBerry Z10 and consequently will influence the U.S. market," he said. Heins said the BlackBerry's launch into the U.S., the company's biggest customer base by far, is coming later because of the extensive testing required by the U.S. carriers and the regulatory process.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Environmental audit. Resource boom is outstripping Canada's eco safeguards, watchdog finds

Canada's aggressive pursuit of resource development is exposing the country to heightened environmental and financial risks that are not being properly handled by federal regulators, a new audit says.

In his final report to Parliament after five years on the job, Scott Vaughan — Canada's commissioner of the environment and sustainable development — said government is not keeping sufficient tabs on mining in the North, offshore drilling in the Atlantic and hydraulic fracturing in hundreds of thousands of shale gas wells sprouting up across the country.

Nor are regulators equipped to deal with major oil spills or an expected 300 per cent increase in tanker traffic off the West Coast, the report states.

Coupled with previous reports that question oversight of pipelines and the oilsands, "you end up with a portrait where there are some serious questions about the federal capacity to safeguard Canada's environment," Vaughan said.

"We know that there's a boom in natural resources in this country. I think what we need now ... is a boom in environmental protection in this country as well."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"There are some serious questions about the federal capacity to safeguard Canada's environment."

Scott Vaughan, Canada's commissioner of the environment and sustainable development

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J.J. ABRAMS IS A NEW HOPE FOR STAR WARS

JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

Here's an idea:

The world is a dream and the dreamer is a guy named J.J. Abrams.

If you want proof, just about everything you watch starts in the head of J.J. Abrams.

Here's just a partial list — for TV: Felicity, Alias, Lost, Fringe, Person of Interest and Revolution.

For movies: Super 8, Cloverfield, Mission Impossible, the reboot of the Star Trek franchise and now the reboot of the Star Wars franchise.

Episode VII

J.J. Abrams is the Steven Spielberg AND the George Lucas of the second decade of the 21st century.

J.J. Abrams is the Steven Spielberg AND the George Lucas of the second decade of the 21st century. He's the guy personally responsible for keeping Luke Skywalker and Captain Kirk alive and vital.

Not to mention keeping Hollywood alive and vital.

While other directors and producers have been overtaken by a geriatric psychosis that causes them to produce the same Bruce Willis, Sylvester Stallone or Arnold Schwarzenegger movie over and over and over again to empty theatres, Abrams is busily luring the multichannel generation back into the theatre with the consummate skills of a master showman. Not-your-father's Star Trek became relevant and sexy all over again under Abrams' direction and, not incidentally, grossed $385 million worldwide.

Disney, which paid Lucas $4 billion for the Star Wars franchise, is betting that the force remains strong with this one and announced recently that Abrams will direct Star Wars Episode VII, which finally picks up where Luke, Han Solo, Princess Leia and all the Wookies, Ewoks and Jedi Knights left it long, long ago and far, far away, before Lucas the evil revisionist spoiled the whole thing with Jar Jar Binks.

If you don't think Jar Jar Binks was enough to bring down the franchise, you didn't read the reviews of his first appearance in Episode I: The Phantom Menace. One described Jar Jar as a "Rastafarian Stepin Fetchit on platform hoofs, crossed annoyingly with Butterfly McQueen."

It will be interesting to see if Jar Jar Binks survives to stumble again in Episode VII, which is scheduled to be released in 2015, or thereabouts. Meanwhile, Abrams is keeping all those Mission Impossible and Star Trek balls in the air.

Not everyone is happy that J.J. Abrams has been given the keys to all their favourite franchises. The Twitterverse is buzzing: one tweeter alleges that J.J. Abrams' name is actually Jar Jar (for the record, it's Jeffrey Jacob), and another calls it "genre bogarting." But there is hope.

"As long as J.J. Abrams avoids Severe Blunt Force Trauma to the Head, these new Star Wars films will be WAY better than the last ones," says one fan who, you have to admit, has a way with 140 characters.

Speaking of franchises, I wonder if J.J. Abrams has met J.K Rowling…

J.J. Abrams may prove his critics wrong. GETTY IMAGES

The way the cookie crumbles

JOCHEN LUEBKE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Impostor strikes again

Stolen cookie sculpture found on horse's neck

German police have recovered a cookie sculpture that may have been stolen by someone impersonating the Cookie Monster.

Police spokeswoman Jacobe Heers says the 20-kilogram gilded sculpture was found Tuesday morning outside the Leibniz University in Hannover, Germany.

It was hanging from the neck of a horse sculpture with a red ribbon.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Criminal charity

'Cookie Monster' demands donations

The century-old cookie was reported stolen last month from the office of a bakery company in Hannover.

A local newspaper later received a letter demanding cookies be delivered to children at a hospital. The paper also received a picture of someone dressed like Sesame Street's Cookie Monster holding what appeared to be the stolen cookie.

The Bahlsen company promised a reward of 52,000 packets of cookies for a charitable cause if their emblem turned up. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bahlsen CEO Werner Michael Bahlsen appealed to the extortionists to return the stolen cookie logo on Jan. 30. JOCHEN LUEBKE/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Inset: A statue on the facade of the cookie maker before and after the sculpture was stolen. CONTRIBUTED

Bahlsen already gives

Biscuit bandit still on the lam

No suspect has been apprehended.

"I have the cookie! And you want it," the ransom note reads. "You must give all the children milk chocolate cookies on one day in February — and not dark chocolate." It's signed "Cookie Monster."

A spokesperson for the children's hospital called the prank blackmail, adding that Bahlsen already does so much for the hospital and coercion is not necessary.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Metropolitan Panel

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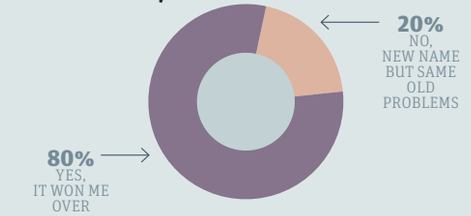
Will the BB10 save BlackBerry (formerly known as RIM)?



Twitter

@TdotRegina:
I can say with much confidence that I don't know how I would survive without #Blistex. The "dry cold" in #YQR prunes a person up good.

@EXPLORE_SPORTS:
Some unbelievable #snowkite conditions lately around #yqr. Hope everyone gets out to enjoy it! z.

@KeithDAndrade:
Two weeks ago I backed into a snow drift and now my muffler sounds like a 10 second car, just without the cool decals. #TheFat&TheFrustrated

@Matt_Kaytor:
K, whoever said that a guy should "meet a girl at the grocery store" is full of s–t... Just burned 40 minutes at Giant Tiger. Still single.

@jennaralko:
Today's simple pleasure: walking to school in daylight, in -11°C. Much better than walking in the dark, when it's snowing, and -40°C.

metro

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SCENE 2

Ceremony

Harvard honours Sutherland

Golden-Globe-winning actor Kiefer Sutherland has been named Man of the Year by Harvard University's Hasty Pudding Theatricals.

Sutherland will be roasted and receive his ceremonial pudding pot at a ceremony scheduled for Friday. The 46-year-old Sutherland has been in dozens of films but is perhaps best known for his role as Jack Bauer in the television series 24, for which he won Golden Globe and Primetime Emmy awards. He is currently starring in the television show Touch.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kiefer Sutherland.
GETTY IMAGES

Showtime

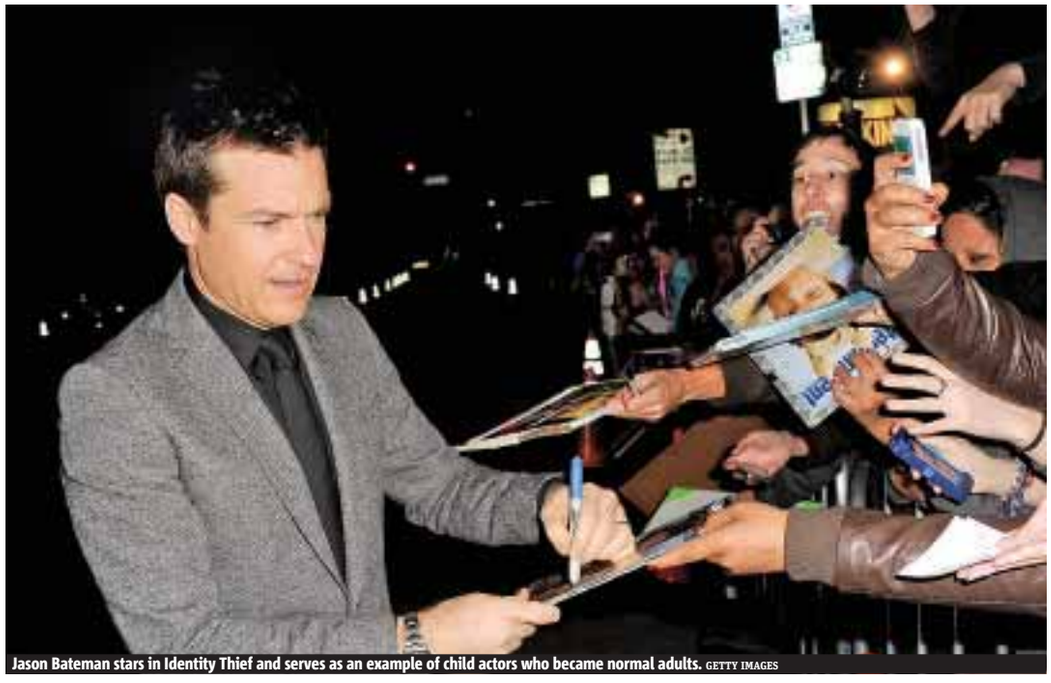
Damon to play parody of himself

Matt Damon is becoming a TV comedy regular.

Showtime said Monday that Damon will guest star next week on House of Lies. He'll play what the channel called a "maniacal megastar" version of himself.

Last month, Damon staged a mock takeover of Jimmy Kimmel's ABC talk show, tying Kimmel to a chair and acting as host for a night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Jason Bateman stars in Identity Thief and serves as an example of child actors who became normal adults. GETTY IMAGES

Finding an adult Identity

Child actors. A look at those, including Jason Bateman of Identity Thief, who bucked the trend and became successful adult actors

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

It's a pop culture cliché that all child actors grow up to become the subject of tragic tabloid stories. Sure, adulthood was not kind to Gary Coleman or Jodie Sweetin (although she does earn a point or two for the title of her tell-all, unSweetined), but there are dozens of kid actors who grew up to have fulfilling careers in Hollywood.

She's no Lindsay Lohan

"I don't know why people think child actresses in particular are screwed up."

Jodie Foster
Talking about the perception of child actors.

Jason Bateman is one of the lucky ones who made the transition to adult roles with ease. At 12 he debuted as James Ingalls on Little House on the Prairie and, dozens of credits later, this weekend stars in Identity Thief opposite comedy it-girl Melissa McCarthy.

The longevity of his career is dwarfed by Jodie Foster, whose 47 years on screen have seen her do everything from Disney movies like Freaky Friday to playing an underage prostitute in Taxi Driver to winning Oscars for The Accused and The Silence of the Lambs.

"I don't know why people think child actresses in particular are screwed up," she says. "I see kids everywhere who are totally bored. I've never been bored a day in my life."

Mickey Rooney's cameo appearance in The Muppets marked 10 decades of acting in movies. He was just a year-and-a-half old when he began performing in his parent's vaudeville act and made his first film just a few years later, playing Mickey McGuire in a series of short films. The audition breakdown requested a young boy with dark hair, so Mickey's mom rubbed burnt cork to his scalp to colour his blonde hair.

Long before Elijah Wood donned huge hairy feet and went off in search of the magical ring in Lord of the Rings, he kept busy as a child actor in movies like Internal Affairs and Radio Flyer.

It's hard to top winning an Oscar at age 11, but Anna Paquin has gone on to distinguish herself in indie hits like The Squid and The Whale and on television in True Blood. And speaking of Oscars, one of this year's best actor nominees, Joaquin Phoenix, made his debut at age eight, appearing on an episode of Seven Brides For Seven Brothers with his brother River.

"There are kids who get on a BMX bike when they're eight and they go, 'Whoa, this is incredible' and grow up to do extreme sports," he said. "It's the same for me with acting."

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OURTAKEONTHEWORLDOFCELEBRITIES

Selena Gomez ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Bible study group newest Hollywood hotspot?

Apparently the hottest new young Hollywood hangout isn't a nightclub but a weekly bible study group — which Selena Gomez, Vanessa Hudgens and 90210 star Matt Lanter have reportedly been attending, according to Us Weekly. Gomez has even brought ex-boyfriend Justin Bieber to the group, which meets monthly at a Beverly Hills hotel. "Justin's come in before and his mom, Pattie, is a regular," a source says. The group is reportedly organized by E! correspondent Jason Kennedy.

Justin Timberlake

Timberlake: No disrespect!

Justin Timberlake insists he in no way disrespected ex-girlfriend Britney Spears, despite reports to the contrary, according to Us Weekly. At Timberlake's first live show in five years, he kicked off Cry Me a River — his breakup anthem written after his split from Spears — by telling the crowd, "Sometimes in life, you think you found the one. But then one day you find out that she is just some bitch." After the show, though, Timberlake took to Twitter to do damage control. "Wouldn't disrespect anyone personally. Ever," he tweeted.

The Word

Wallis' puppy purses make a splash on red carpet

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

It's a very slow gossip day and honestly, if I have to write one more thing about the feud between Brandi Glanville and LeAnn Rimes, I'm going to pack up my things and move to Vermont where I will spend the rest of my days knitting and raising cattle and never reading another Us Weekly ever again. Or raising Budweiser Clydesdales. Whichever.

So, today's column will be about something totally rad and worth highlighting: The awesomeness that is Oscar nominee Quvenzhané Wallis' puppy purses.

Wallis owns 20 of the purses, designed by Poochie & Co., and they've been a mainstay on the red carpet for the nine-year-old actress. "That's my signature," she told Ellen DeGeneres about rocking the accessory time and time again. And yes, expect to see one pop up (pup up?) at the Oscars. When asked by Jay Leno on The Tonight Show who she'll be taking to the awards ceremony, she held up her puppy purse and said, "This and my mom."

Cute, right? In Hollywood, where we force our girls to grow up much too quickly, it's nice to see a little girl act like a little girl. And carry a mass-produced purse that looks like a little dog instead of, you know, Gucci. You go, Quvenzhané Wallis.

Trump sues Maher for $5 million

Donald Trump is suing Bill Maher for $5 million over a charity wager, according to E! News.

Maher reportedly agreed to donate that amount to charity if Trump could prove — by producing a birth certificate — that he was not the child of an orangutan.

Maher made the offer during a visit to The Tonight Show after Trump infamously made a similar $5 million charity donation offer to Barack Obama that was widely criticized.

Donald Trump

Twitter

@ShiaLaBeouf
how are you guys doing?

@JoshRadnor
Pretending like I don't like 'Peter, Paul, & Mary' is exhausting.

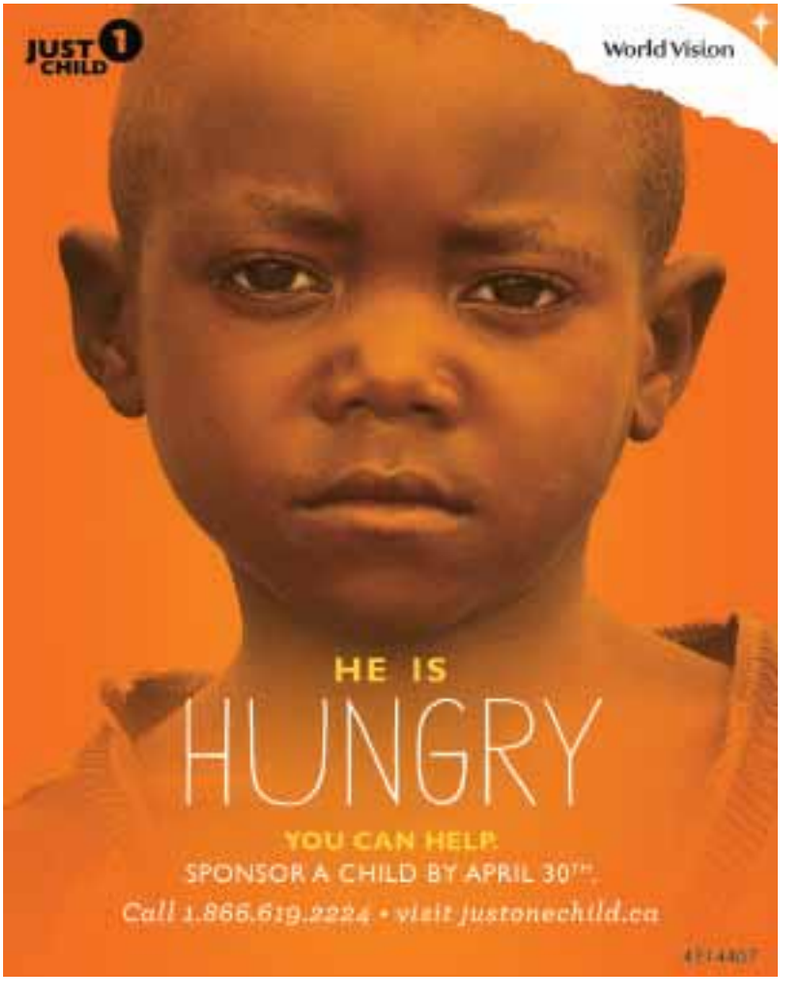
@Bitchuation
When there is a sign posted in a bar that says WE ID ALL GUESTS and they don't ID you, is that bad?

@SarahKSilverman
Oh Jesus I just woke up did Beyonce win?

Leonardo DiCaprio

Things heating up for Leo, co-star

It looks like things are heating up between Leonardo DiCaprio and his Wolf of Wall Street co-star Margot Robbie. DiCaprio was spotted getting cosy with the 22-year-old Australian actress on the balcony of his suite at a Miami hotel before heading out to play in the surf with Jonah Hill, Lukas Haas and several other women, according to E! News. The pair did little to hide their affection for each other despite the obvious paparazzi presence.



You've been camping out in the library studying for weeks and the thought of writing one more assignment makes you want to hurl your Easy Mac 'n Cheese. Fear not! Spring break is right around the corner, and whether you long for the beach, slopes or partying like it's ... er, 2013, here's the top five hot spots crawling with students who, like you, are willing to sacrifice a few brain cells for a week of fun.

MAE BOWRING
life@metronews.ca

5 Spring break spots

VLITVINOV/FLICKR

Daytona Beach, Fla.

White sand beaches, warm weather and partying around the clock awaits students who want to let loose. The hotels cater to budget-conscious students so you can have a week of fun in the sun without dipping too much into your student loan.
Good if: You want the classic spring break experience.
Bad if: You want to feel rested when you get back.

Mont Tremblant, Que.

If you daydream in philosophy class about carving through fresh powder, then make your way to this popular ski city. Busloads of students will be doing the same, making the nightlife in the village a can't-miss during spring break. Think you'll break your neck on the slopes? Try dogsledding or tubing.
Good if: You want to cuddle up with a ski bunny at night.
Bad if: You underdress and get frostbite.

TREMBLANT PHOTOS/FLICKR

New Orleans

It's a gritty city that celebrates sin. February is Mardi Gras month and depending on when you arrive, the French Quarter will be bustling with parties so wild that you'll be repeating stories of that "amazing spring break" well into your golden years. New Orleans is a safe city as long as you stick to the highly populated areas.
Good if: You're into voodoo.
Bad if: Parades and scantily clad women scare you.

CLETCH/FLICKR

GPOO/FLICKR

Montreal

Students looking for more of a cosmopolitan experience will find it in the historically rich and charming streets of Montreal. It may not be 30 C and sunny, but there's literally hundreds of restaurants to cosy up in with some comfort food when you're not busy exploring an art gallery or boutique.
Good if: You're underage because the legal drinking age is 18.
Bad if: You hate winter.

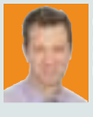
Cancun, Mexico

This list would lack credibility if it didn't include the sun and booze-soaked experience that is Cancun. The main strip has student-friendly hotels and the glorious weather makes lounging by the pool the obvious thing to do during the day. The exciting nightlife attracts people from all over North America and Cancun is safe for travellers. But like all party towns, it's wise to stay with your friends at all times.
Good if: "Tequila" is your middle name.
Bad if: You don't believe in cleanses, because your liver will need it.

JTHETZEL/FLICKR

Travel tips

On the road ... the safe way



ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie
life@metronews.ca

Worrying about personal safety is not at the top of everyone's holiday planning checklist, but one incident can ruin your vacation. Here are a few suggestions to ensure you return home safe and sound.

The public and transient nature of a hotel makes it an attractive place to commit petty crime, so be smart. If you are travelling alone, ask for a room close to the elevator.

Do not answer the door to an unexpected guest. If they claim to be a hotel employee, call the front desk to verify.

Use the Do Not Disturb sign if want strangers to think you are in-house. Ask if there is valet parking and use it.

Avoid large gatherings. Whether it is a celebration, rally or protest, pickpockets like to blend into a crowd as they search for unsuspecting tourists. If alcohol is involved and the mood gets heated, events with a mob-like mentality can escalate into a riot. Having your wallet lifted can quickly become the least of your problems.

Be wary of new friends. Without a doubt meeting people is one of the best parts of travelling, but not everyone has your best interests at heart. Keep conversations light and do not offer up any personal information, such as where you are staying or your cabin number.

Leave the bling at home. Valuable jewelry only serves to draw attention to yourself. If you absolutely need to bring that favourite ring or bracelet along, wear them only in appropriate settings and otherwise leave them in the room. Most up-scale chain hotels now offer personal safes in their guestrooms.

Avoid hitting the road. Car accidents are the number one cause of overseas injuries for travellers. Consider taking public transit when you can. If you do need to drive, follow the rules of the road and avoid night driving. The laws and cultural norms around drinking and driving are different in countries outside of North America.

Speaking of alcohol, drink responsibly. Its fine to let your hair down on vacation, but being on holiday is not a license to be loud and obnoxious.

Leave your Do Not Disturb sign up to make strangers think you're in the room. ISTOCK

Salad that packs a protein punch without meat: Hearty Grain & Quinoa

Edamame, grains and cheese ensure this unusual and refreshing salad has a main course level of protein.

1. Bring medium saucepan of water to a boil. Add edamame and corn. Reduce heat to medium; simmer 3 to 4 minutes. Drain; set aside to cool.

2. Meanwhile, gently squeeze pouch all over to break the rice apart. Tear top corners of pouch about 1/2 inch (1 cm). Place pouch, upright, in the microwave and heat on high for 1 minute and 30 seconds. Let stand in microwave 1 to 2 minutes. Caution: Pouch will be hot.

3. Carefully remove from microwave, holding sides. Pour into a bowl, stir and set aside to cool.

4. In small bowl, whisk together shallot, lemon juice, oil and pepper until combined.

5. Add edamame, corn, tomatoes and feta cheese to cooled rice mixture. Drizzle dressing over top; toss lightly to combine.

NEWS CANADA/ PC.CA

Ingredients

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes

- 1 cup (250 ml) frozen edamame
- 1 cup (250 ml) frozen corn
- 1 pkg (250 g) PC Blue Menu Whole Grain Brown Rice with Lentils and Quinoa Blend
- 1 shallot, minced
- 3 tbsp (45 ml) fresh lemon juice
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) omega oil
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) freshly ground black pepper
- 1 cup (250 ml) cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1/3 cup (75 ml) drained and crumbled light feta cheese in brine

This recipe serves four. NEWS CANADA

Drink of the Week

Tropical Peace Breeze Smoothie

Dreaming of warmer weather? Make this snack that features peaches, ginger and coconut water.

- 1 (14 oz/398 ml) can California Cling Peaches in fruit juices from concentrate
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) coconut water or plain or vanilla almond milk
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) Greek vanilla, honey or peach yogurt, preferably 0%
- 1 tsp (5 ml) vanilla
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) ginger
- 1/8 tsp (0.5 ml) nutmeg
- Honey or agave syrup

Drain peaches, reserving 2 tbsp (30 ml) juice. Place peaches, reserved peach juice, coconut water or almond milk, yogurt, vanilla, ginger and nutmeg in a blender. Blend until smooth. If you wish, sweeten with honey or agave syrup.

NEWS CANADA/ CALCLINGPEACH.CA

Lunch. Flax-Crusted Chicken, Sweet Potato and Baby Kale Salad

1. Preheat oven to 425 F (220 C).

2. Line baking sheet with parchment paper. Arrange frozen chicken on one half of baking sheet. In bowl, toss sweet potato rounds with salt and 1-1/2 tsp (7 ml) of the olive oil; arrange on other half of baking sheet. Bake in centre of oven for 30 minutes, turning chicken and sweet potato over halfway. Let cool for 5 minutes.

3. Meanwhile, in large bowl, toss together baby kale, tomatoes, cucumber, shallot, lemon juice and remaining 1-1/2 tbsp (22 ml) olive oil.

4. Slice each chicken breast into strips. Divide and arrange salad mixture, roasted sweet potatoes and chicken among four plates. Sprinkle with pepper.

NEWS CANADA/ PC.CA

Ingredients

- 3 pieces PC Blue Menu breaded chicken breast with flaxseed
- 1 medium sweet potato peeled and cut in 1/2-inch (1 cm) rounds
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) salt
- 2 tbsp (25 ml) olive oil
- 4 cups (1 l) baby kale
- 9 cherry tomatoes, halved
- 16 thin slices English cucumber (skin on)
- 1 small shallot, thinly sliced
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) fresh lemon juice
- 1/8 tsp (0.5 ml) freshly ground black pepper

Get the fiesta started with Mexican Party Potato Salad

Canned-cream-style corn gives this potato salad a delectable creaminess, without the usual mayo. For added flavour, top with your choice of shredded cheese.

1. Bring a large saucepan of water to a boil over medium-high heat. Add potatoes; once water returns to boil, reduce heat to medium. Cover and cook for about 10 minutes or until tender. Drain; transfer to baking sheet to cool.

2. Meanwhile, in extra large bowl combine black beans, red onion, red pepper, green onion, coriander, corn, jalapeno (if using), lime juice and salt.

3. Add cooled potatoes; toss to combine. **NEWS CANADA/ PC.CA**

This recipe serves 10. NEWS CANADA

Ingredients

Prep time: 20 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes

- 3 lb (1.5 kg) Yukon Gold potatoes, scrubbed and cut in 3/4 (2 cm) cubes
- 1 can (540 ml) black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 cup (250 ml) diced red onion
- 1 1/2 cups (375 ml) diced sweet red pepper
- 3/4 cup (175 ml) finely chopped green onion
- 3/4 cup (175 ml) chopped fresh coriander
- 1 can (398 ml) cream-style corn
- Quarter jalapeno pepper, seeded and finely chopped (optional)
- 3 tbsp (45 ml) fresh lime juice
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt

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The tree of life. In this time of employment uncertainty, only you can prevent a forest industry labour shortage

CASSANDRA JOWETT
TalentEgg.ca

Feeling lost in a web of we'll-let-you-knows? Your prospects might just be looking up. ISTOCK

If you don't know much about the forest products industry and its career opportunities, no one could blame you.

It's a sector that has flown under the radar for much of the last decade, losing as many as 70,000 jobs in the wake of a stronger Canadian dollar, changes in the global economy, the increasing prevalence of digital media, and the U.S. housing market collapse and subsequent recession in 2008.

More recently, however, it seems as though the industry's fortunes are changing.

There is increased global demand for traditional Canadian wood and paper products, and the innovative new technologies being developed here are capturing the attention of people around the world.

The only thing holding it back now, though, is a looming talent shortage.

Why the forest products industry needs you

According to a report released by the Forest Products Sector Council (FPSC) in 2011, it is estimated that more than one third of the industry's aging workforce — about 50,000 people — will leave within the next 10 years.

"It's hard to imagine that we're facing labour challenges after shedding so many jobs," says Jim Farrell, Executive Director of the FPSC, but the industry's long-standing public perception and image problems, coupled with its current demographics, mean there just aren't enough people to replace all of the baby boomers who are slated to retire.

We want you!

The number of young people working in the sector is at a historical low compared to the overall workforce, so it may need to hire as many as 120,000 people by the year 2020.

The number of young people working in the sector is at a historical low compared to the overall workforce, so it may need to hire as many as 120,000 people by the year 2020.

About one third of forest products employers say they are already making significant efforts to target youth for recruitment into the sector, with many more sure to follow.

Beyond lumber, pulp and paper

Canada's forest products sector is carving a new path for itself that goes far beyond the traditional industry staples of lumber and paper.

"There's more effort being made by companies as well as government to accelerate transformation in the industry," Farrell says. "We currently have eight research networks with 27 universities across the country."

Those research networks are developing products such as antibiotics and pharmaceuticals, biofuels and bioplastics, glues, enzymes and paints, artificial flavours and fertilizers — all derived from Canadian wood, which is a completely renewable resource.

"This is the kind of thinking that, within 10 years, could put Canada's forest products industry in a fundamentally different place than it was before," Jim says.

"We're going to need a whole bunch of smart, educated people to enter the industry."

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Student voice

Recruiters, be reasonable with your expectations

Timothy Boodram
Graduate
New media
University of Toronto

TalentEgg.ca

Timothy Boodram PROVIDED

I am a recent graduate who is finding the transition to work difficult. I have been applying for work for almost a year now and have had little luck. I've been interviewed twice, but haven't been able to land the job. For one job, I had made it through three rounds of interviews over the span of a month and a half, but they said they were looking for someone with more direct experience in a certain role. I think my age was a big factor.

In the meantime, I've been trying to keep busy by coding websites, but nothing paid.

What I'm doing now

I'm keeping busy doing some personal work to strengthen my portfolio and I've been waking up every morning and scouring the Internet for possible job openings.

I've been considering new career options since I have been an unemployed graduate for almost a year. I've also applied to grad school in September as a backup.

My recommendations for employers, career centres and schools

Employers in the area of web design/programming really need to focus on making more accurate job listings.

I found several listings that are advertised as being "new graduate" positions. However, they often list qualifications that no new graduate could possibly possess.

Often I see posts requiring knowledge of 10 plus programming languages and five plus years of experience. From speaking with employers, they often say they do this to receive confident applicants only. From speaking with students and graduates, it's very intimidating and discouraging for us because we all feel very unqualified.

New graduate positions need to cater to new graduates. Offer us a position where we can help, and provide a way for us to learn on the job.

My advice for other students and recent graduates

The majority of employed graduates from my graduating year got their job through someone they know. It's all about who you know, and less about what you know (although this is still important to KEEP that job). Network, network, network.

TALENTEGG.CA, CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR STUDENTS AND NEW GRADUATES, WANTS TO HEAR YOUR STUDENT VOICE.

4 SPORTS

NFL

Ravens salute fans at parade

Baltimore celebrated with its Super Bowl champion Ravens on Tuesday, with thousands of fans in purple lining the streets and packing the team's stadium for a celebration.

Fans filled the square in front of City Hall and cheered when players held the silver Lombardi trophy aloft. The Mayor's Office of Emergency Management estimated that 200,000 people took part in the celebration in Charm City.

Coach John Harbaugh thanked the fans for their support, and safety Ed Reed sang the melody of Eddie Money's Two Tickets to Paradise. Retiring middle linebacker Ray Lewis, the only current player to have started with the team when it came to the city from Cleveland in 1996, told fans the team had fulfilled a promise to go to New Orleans and win.

"The city of Baltimore — I love you for ever and ever and ever and ever," Lewis told fans in front of City Hall. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blackout

Superdome was upgraded ahead of SuperBowl

Concerned the Superdome might not be able to handle the energy needed for its first Super Bowl since Hurricane Katrina, officials spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on upgrades to decayed utility lines, according to documents obtained by The Associated Press.

The improvements apparently weren't enough, however, to prevent an embarrassing and puzzling 34-minute power outage during the third quarter of the game between the Baltimore Ravens and San Francisco 49ers on Sunday.

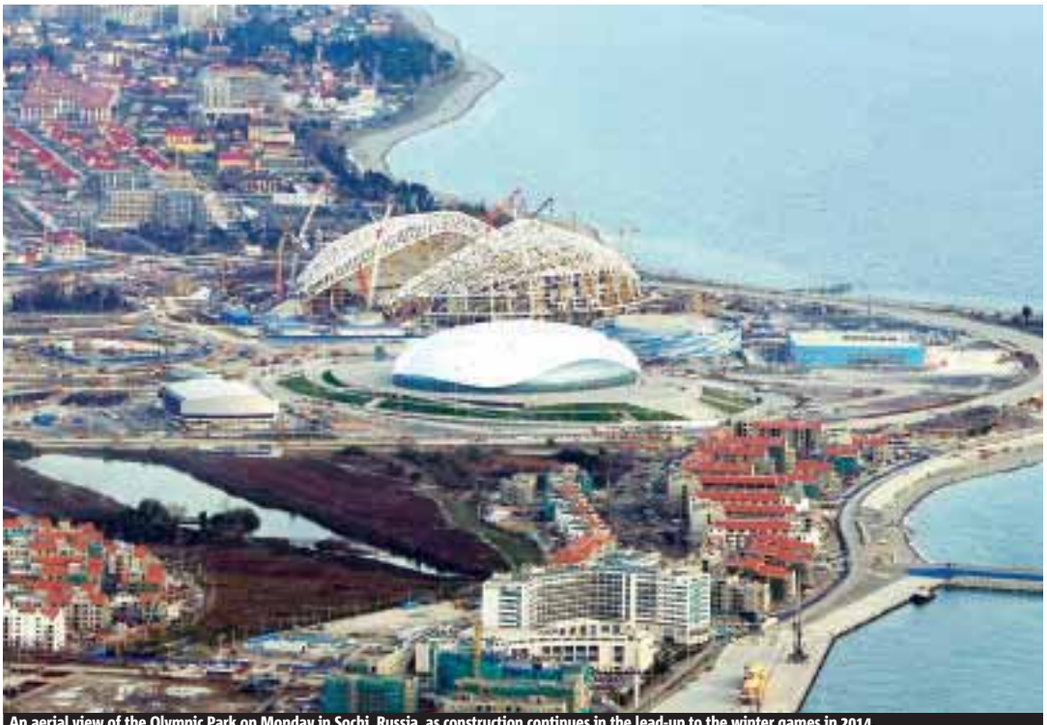
Two days later, officials still had not pinpointed the cause of the outage.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Skiing

Crash spells end of Vonn's season

The U.S. Ski Team says Lindsey Vonn has torn the ACL and MCL in her right knee and also has a broken bone after a horrific crash Tuesday at the world championships.

The team says Vonn will undergo surgery and will miss the rest of this season but is expected to return in time for the 2014 Sochi Olympics.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



An aerial view of the Olympic Park on Monday in Sochi, Russia, as construction continues in the lead-up to the winter games in 2014.
DMITRY LOVETSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Russia sparing no expense on Games

Countdown to Sochi Olympics. President Putin using event to showcase a prosperous Russia to the world

One year before Russia hosts its first Winter Olympics, this Black Sea resort is a vast construction site sprawling for nearly 40 kilometres along the coast and 50 kilometres up into the mountains. After arriving at Sochi's new airport, there's no escape from the clang and clatter of the drilling, jackhammering and mixing of cement that drowns out the hum of the sea and the birdsong.

For Russia and its leadership, the 2014 Sochi Games is not just a major sports event but a point of national pride. President Vladimir Putin has made the Olympics his personal project and, determined to use them to showcase a powerful and prosperous Russia, has spared no expense to make sure the games are a success.

On Thursday, Putin will be in Sochi to preside over a lavish celebration marking the one-year countdown to the opening ceremony on Feb. 7, 2014.

"The project is under his permanent control and we enjoy the full government support," Sochi organizing committee head Dmitry Chernyshenko said. "This really is his games because he recognizes the power of these games, the greatest ever catalyst to accelerate positive change."

The current overall price tag for the games is $51 billion, more than four times as much as Russia estimated when it was awarded the Olympics in 2007. This would make Sochi the most expensive Olympics in history, surpassing the $40 billion that China is believed to have splashed out for the 2008 Summer Games in Beijing. For Sochi, at least half the money is coming from state coffers, with most of the rest being put forward by state-controlled companies and Russian tycoons.

The costs are high because they include extensive infrastructure development in addition to construction of the Olympic venues, almost all of which had to be built from scratch. Most of the sports venues have already been completed or will be in the next few months, while armies of workers are busy building hotels and additional Olympic facilities. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Athlete to watch in Sochi

Regina's Mark McMorris:

- The 19-year-old snowboarder has been a dominant force in the slopestyle discipline, which will be making its Olympic debut in Sochi.
- He successfully defended his slopestyle title at the X Games last month and has shown he's not intimidated by snowboarding icon Shaun White.

Mark McMorris THE CANADIAN PRESS

No. 13 in the world Milos Raonic is best known for his booming serve.
DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tennis. Raonic riding high into 2013

Milos Raonic is one of the biggest young stars on the ATP Tour and he's riding high after anchoring Canada's recent upset win over Spain in Davis Cup play.

The future is bright for the 22-year-old right-hander from Thornhill, Ont., who currently sits at a career-high No. 13 in the world rankings. His next mission is to take the necessary steps to continue his steady growth on the ATP Tour.

It won't be easy to crack that upper echelon where the sport's elite players are rooted. The top level is filled with battle-tested veterans who are loaded with experience and seem to be a half-step ahead of the rest.

Raonic appears well-positioned to get there down the road — it seems to be just a matter of when.

"I think I'm capable of a lot of things," Raonic said Tuesday of the season ahead. "I've set my goal to make London at the year-end (championship). That would probably put me in the top eight. So all these kind of things I look forward to." THE CANADIAN PRESS

DRIVE 5

Fill your 'baby' with latest gadgets

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

The Yada Digital Baby Camera/Monitor.

The Mastercraft Pitcart would fit in at a NASCAR race. PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

It's a time-honoured tradition: improving and personalizing your vehicle through gadgets.

The tradition was founded, one could argue, with the Ford Model T.

"A Ford was born naked as a baby, and a flourishing industry grew up out of correcting its rare deficiencies and combating its fascinating diseases," wrote E.B. White of the Model T, in his famous essay, Farewell My Lovely, first published in the May 16, 1936 edition of The New Yorker.

He began his essay by lamenting the new Sears Roebuck catalogue, which by that point only had one page devoted to Model T accessories and parts. This was in contrast to the "spring times when the Ford gadget section was larger than men's clothing, almost as large as household furnishings."

Of course, back in those days, a Model T gadget could be something like a rear view mirror, a foot accelerator to replace the standard hand accelerator, or a tire patch kit. According to White, every Model T owner back then "was capable of putting on a patch, expected to, and did have to."

Now we're expected to be drinking coffee and responding to text messages while driving.

In fact, Fiat's European division has come up with the world's first in-car espresso maker. Fiat 500L buyers in Europe can order this maker directly from Fiat. It slides into the centre console and makes nice, hot espresso whenever you want, as long as the 500L is in park. It doesn't look like we'll get it in North America. We still don't get a lot of the interesting and sporting vehicle and powertrain options the Europeans get — now we have to add portable espresso machines to the off-limits list. Damn you old world power.

But just as well, as there are lots of other new gadgets that need our attention.

I recently attended Canadian Tire's press event, highlighting some of its new automotive products for the upcoming spring season. A lot of car cleaning and man-cave garage type stuff. A lot of electronic stuff.

My favourite garage/tool item is the Mastercraft Pitcart — a huge toolbox on wheels worthy of a NASCAR team.

But nothing says gadget like an electronic gadget. Electronic gadgets that further connectivity, safety, navigation, entertainment, etc., are exploding in number these days.

Mandi Paquin-Johnson, Canadian Tire's car category buyer, told us that the Yada Digital Baby Camera/Monitor is one of the bigger electronic gadget hits over the last year. The monitor mounts on the front dash, so you never have to swivel your head to see how junior's doing in the backseat. "Everyone who's tried one loves it," says Paquin-Johnson.

Because the electronic industry moves faster than the automotive industry, I don't think there will ever be a shortage of such new gadgets that people will want to incorporate into their driving experiences. This should ensure that the gadget tradition would continue to thrive, even though cars no longer come from the factory, as the Model T once did, "naked as a baby."

Fuel for thought: The sulphur debate

Driving Force. Cleaner gas means more steps during the refining process, which can get costly

JIL MCINTOSH
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Canadians pump more than 200 million litres of fuel into their vehicles every day, and drive a combined 325 billion kilometres each year. But compared to 20 years ago, smog-forming emissions have dropped by 90 per cent, primarily due to more efficient vehicles and cleaner fuels.

"Fuels have much less sulphur in them today," says Peter Boag, president of the Canadian Fuels Association. "This has an impact on the effectiveness and efficiency of the vehicle's emissions control systems."

Sulphur is a chemical that's found naturally in crude petroleum. Before it's refined, crude contains some 15,000 to 18,000 parts per million (ppm) of sulphur. In the past, gasoline could still contain as much as 1,000 ppm, and in the early 1990s, Canada's average sulphur content, at 350 ppm, was one of the highest worldwide.

Starting in 2003, government regulations reduced the allowable amount to 150 ppm, with a second phase two years later further reducing it to 30 ppm.

"Today, gasoline has only three ppm on average of sulphur," Boag says. "And prior to 2007, the standard for diesel was 500 ppm, and it's now at 15 ppm. That's for on-road diesel, off-road, rail, and marine. All diesel now produced is what we call ultra-low-sulphur diesel, or ULSD.

"When you look at the growth of the heavy-duty vehicle segment over the last 10 to 15 years, that (sulphur) reduction has been an important part of emissions performance. ULSD has enabled new particulate filters that eliminate particulate matter, which is the visible pollutant (in diesel exhaust)," Boag says.

Removing sulphur from gasoline doesn't affect engine performance and is strictly about the vehicle's emissions and exhaust treatment systems.

But while low-sulphur fuels may seem like a win-win, they aren't without their challenges. It's expensive to take sulphur out of crude during refining, which raises the price of production. It also requires more steps, which requires more energy. While there was a net improvement in air quality linked to the removal of sulphur in fuels, there was also a rise in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions at the refineries from the extra energy required to remove it.

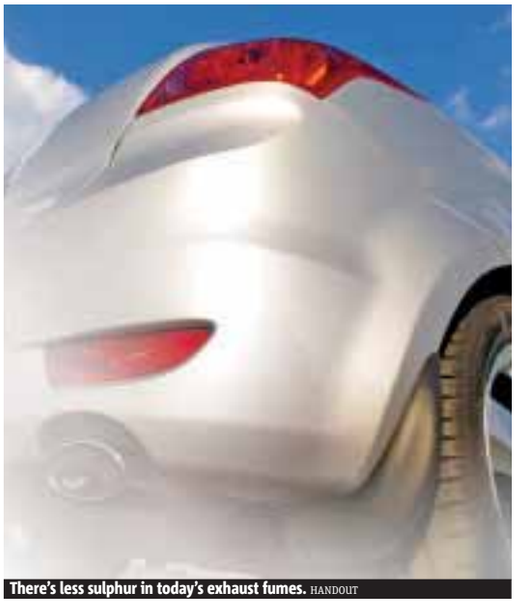
Quoted

"Fuels have much less sulphur in them these days."

Peter Boag, president of Canadian Fuel Association.
On how much fuel has changed over the years, thus affecting price.

Information

- **Billion dollar improvements.** From 2002 to 2010, Canada's refining industry spent approximately $5 billion in upgrades to achieve reduced sulphur levels.
- **A brief history.** Gasoline also used to contain lead, which was originally added to fuel in the 1920s to improve engine performance. Leaded gas was phased out starting in the 1970s, primarily because it wasn't compatible with new emissions control equipment on cars, and was banned in Canada in 1990.



There's less sulphur in today's exhaust fumes. HANDOUT

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You have been extremely active mentally of late and your mind could probably use a rest. Try to treat yourself more gently over the next 24 hours. Even an Aries needs a break once in a while.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
The most important thing now is that you don't change your aims unless you are certain it's the right thing to do. It is better to finish what you started, even if your passion for it is not what it once was.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Mercury, your ruler, joins forces with Neptune, planet of imagination, so you are sure to come up with some ideas. Whether they can do something for you remains to be seen. Never stop thinking.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Watch what you say today because you don't want to let slip information that others have no right to know — and which they can use against you. Be wary of people who try to talk to you about personal matters.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Your judgment could be a bit off target today, so be careful if someone approaches you with a plan to make money. It could be they are genuine but unless you are sure it might be wise to give it a miss.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Even if you are the sort of Virgo who is good at disguising feelings, you will still be a bit emotional today. Remember, it's not that others have upset you which matters but how you choose to react.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
If you act on impulse today, you could make a serious mistake. Then you will have to take foolish risks to try to cover up that mistake and before you know it, everything will be falling apart. Don't do it!

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You will get plenty of advice from well-meaning people today, but deep down you already know what needs to be done. Stop wasting time discussing the issue and start doing the things that will change your life.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Some things are important and some things are not. Do you know which is which? No matter how much your career means to you, it is your home life you need to focus on over the next few days.

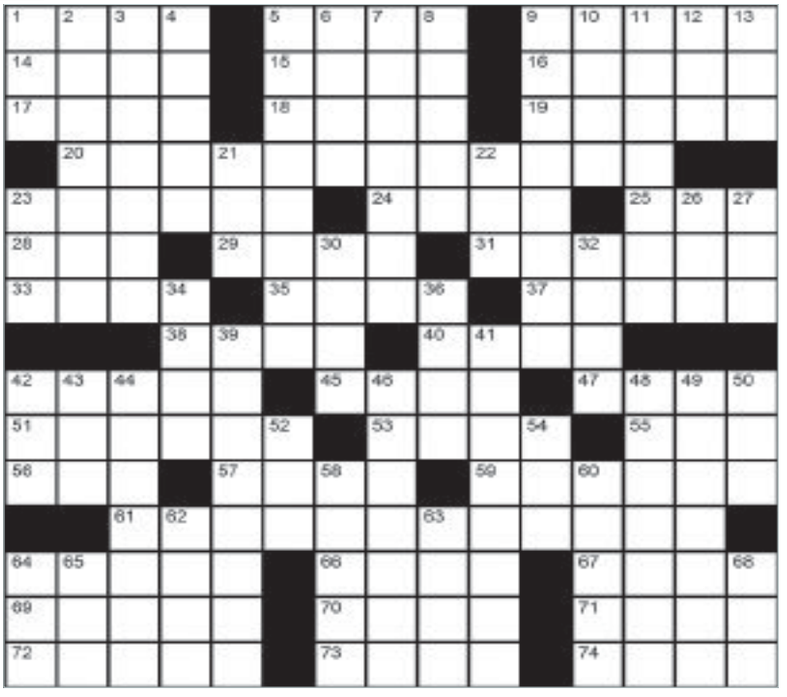
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You will be rather controversial in some of the things you say over the next 24 hours, so don't be surprised if people get upset. Be that as it may, you have a duty to tell the truth as you see it.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You may be having second thoughts about a project of some kind but if you pull out now you could lose a lot of money. Can you afford it? Also, can you afford what it might do to your reputation?

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Neptune, your ruling planet, is strong in your chart today, which means you know exactly what needs to be done. But do you have the courage to do it? If you do you will make rapid progress. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

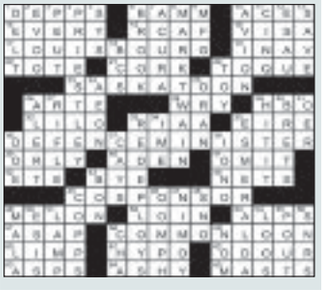
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Dot-__ (Web businesses)
5. Pelletier's skating partner
9. Calf-length pant
14. Take __ the waist, as alterations: 2 wds.
15. Do needlework
16. Utilize a crane
17. Designer Ms. Wang
18. __ _ fever (Ailed)
19. Smallest litter puppies
20. Mick E. Moose is this team's mascot: 2 wds.
23. Maple Leafs great Mr. Clark
24. Carnivore's craving
25. Energy unit
28. "__ Haw"
29. Jazz singer Ms. Fitzgerald
31. Dotted-line endorser
33. Gumbo ingredient
35. Long times
37. Foodie
38. Australian rock group
40. "Woodstock" gr.
42. "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" spin-off
45. Ginger cookie
47. Consequently
51. Angel
53. Mr. Clapton
55. 'Ranch' suffix
56. Director Mr. Lee
57. Air freshener brand
59. Toronto's __ Phillips Square
61. New Brunswick, e.g.: 2 wds.
64. Paul McCartney song: "__ __ Was Lonely"
66. Jai __ (Court game)
67. Nons opposites
69. Allied beachhead site in Italy in WWII
70. Confined
71. One being taken advantage of
72. Country singer Ms. Rimes
73. 'Henn' ender (Canadian actress Jill)
74. Quiz

Down
1. Caesar's 104
2. Seven days: 2 wds.
3. Seafarer
4. "__ by Me" (1986)
5. Dubstep artist whose real name is Sonny Moore
6. Take _ __ (Rest)
7. Offensive __ (Football position)
8. Story, in a house, in French
9. 20th Prime Minister, Jean __
10. August: French
11. Canadian actor Gordon
12. After-Q queue
13. "__ Too Late" by Carole King
21. Maiden name indicator
22. Affirmatives, in Austria
23. Five Ws, just one
26. British R&B singer, Des'__
27. Munich's locale [abbr.]
30. Sports defeat
32. Music legend Marvin
34. Verdi opera
36. Incision leftover
39. __ Bonaparte
41. Michael J. Fox series: 2 wds.
42. Cape Town's home [acronym]
43. She-chicken
44. Wedding dress material
46. Sugarland singer Jennifer
48. Find new lodgings for
49. Some sauces
50. Suffix with 'Ball'
52. Mount __ (Sacred mountain in China)
54. Pen part
58. Severus __ ('Harry Potter' books character)
60. Freshwater fish
62. Identical
63. 'Christ' suffix (Some religious people)
64. Seasickness, __ de mer
65. Suffix with 'Meth'
68. Fixed

Yesterday's Crossword

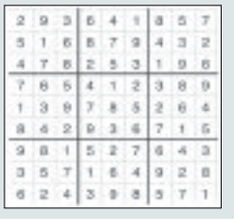


Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

3				6				1
	5				4	7	3	
	6		2	1				
	4					5		
8		9				2		4
		2					7	
				8	9		4	
	2	4	6				8	
9				7				3

Yesterday's Sudoku



Sharability

easy hard

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VALENTINE BALLOON BOUQUETS
GIFT BASKETS & PLUSH
BUTTER AND CREAM FUDGE
BALLOONS BY FRED
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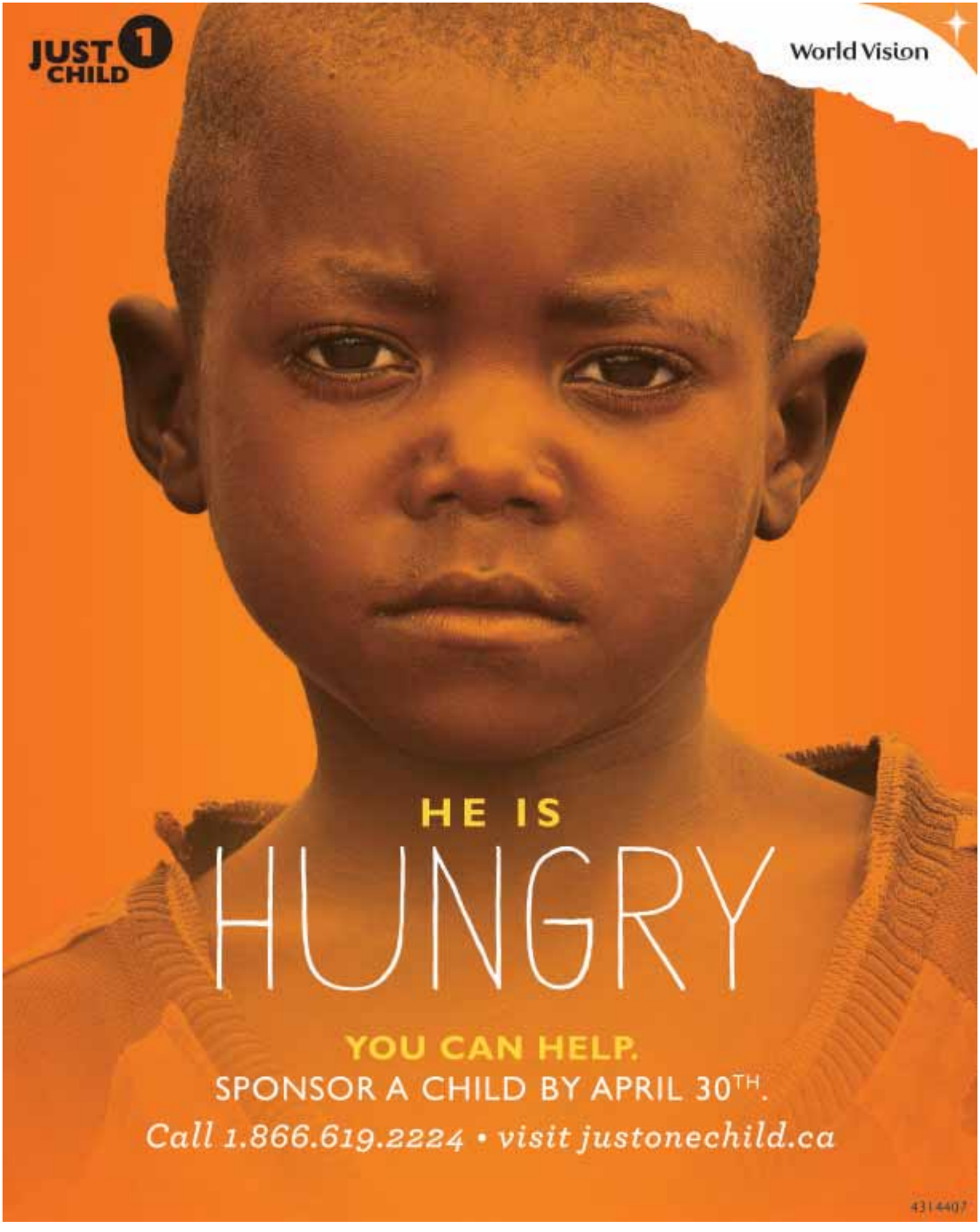
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